



Yellowstone County Extension Office
<http://www.co.yellowstone.mt.gov/extension/county4h/>
Courthouse Room 106
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FEBRUARY 2009

4-H FOLKS IN FOCUS

Thank you to all the club Fruit Sale Chairmen. Your work is appreciated.

Please let me know about things you and others are doing. I want to know about the great things going on in the county.

Roni Baker
Yellowstone County 4-H/Youth Agent

PEOPLE PARTNER GRANTS

People Partner Grant applications are due in the Montana 4-H Center for Youth Development by February 1st, 2009. Guidelines and applications are available on the website: www.montana4h.org by clicking on Foundation, then Forms and finally Grants. If there are any questions or you would like an application, please call the Extension Office.

COMMUNICATION CONTEST DAY MEETING

A planning meeting for Communication Contest Day will be held on Thursday, February 5th at 6:00 p.m. in Room 105 of the Courthouse. Your help is needed to organize this event.

COMMUNICATION CONTEST DAY REGISTRATIONS DUE BY MAR 13

Communication Contest Day registration forms **must be in the Extension Office by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, Mar. 13th**. Communication Contest Day will be held on Saturday, March 28th at Huntley Project School, Worden. You may enter a maximum of three of the seven events. This year we have Tuesday, March 31st, from 5–8 p.m. as a time when only speech and demos can be given. Priority for the Thursday night times will be given to those aged 14 years and older.

Enclosed in this month's newsletter are the registration form, the interview application form and a page giving you job announcements from which you will choose when applying for your job on the Interview Application form. All Senior Contestants applying for an interview **must** include a completed resume with application. If you need forms, contact the Extension Office. Exchange will be selling food to be purchased. You may wish to bring extra money. Contact the Extension Office if you have questions.

HOST AN INTERNATIONAL DELEGATE

The deadline for ALL summer inbound programs is March 15th, 2009. 4-H families can host a Japanese, Costa Rican, Finnish or Norwegian delegate or an IFYE. Program dates and hosting lengths vary so please contact your county office, Regional International Coordinator, or Stephanie Davis at 406-994-3502, sdavison@montana.edu for more information and application materials. This is a great chance to meet someone from another country and to make a lifelong friend.



MONTANA
STATE UNIVERSITY

EXTENSION

IFYE PARTICIPANT GIVES TALKS

Jeff Sather who was the 2008 Montana IFYE spent his time in Austria and Germany. He will be giving presentations in Yellowstone County during the week of February 17th - 20th. If you would like to host Jeff for an evening program, contact Roni at 256-2828.

FRUIT SALE ENDS FEB. 27th

The Fruit Sale will end Friday, February 27th. Each member needs to sell two boxes. This is one of 4-H Leaders Council's major fund raisers, so let's all try really hard to beat last year's sales. And don't forget to set a selling goal so you can win one of the really cool prizes!

Remember that you are responsible for paying your club for the fruit you sell. **The club must pay 4-H Council, so if you don't pay, the money comes from your club treasury.** You are responsible for the fruit once you check it out from the club chairman. Be sure you handle the fruit correctly and get it delivered fast.

JUNIOR LEADERS

The Jr. Leaders will meet on Thursday, February 12th at 6:00 p.m. to help with the State 4-H Foundation Phone-a-thon. Pizza and snacks will be served.

Anyone 13 or older is invited to attend! If you have questions or concerns, please call Lacey at 628-1075, Melody at 208-3911 or Norma at 670-5190.



4-H COUNCIL MEETING FEB. 5th

The next 4-H Council meeting will be held on Thursday, February 5th at 7:30 p.m. in Room 105 of the Courthouse. **Everyone** is invited to attend.

RELINK YOUR ALBERTSONS CARD

For 4-H to continue earning funds, each year, you need to re-link your card number to our assigned organization ID number. All you need is your preferred Savings Card

Number and our Organization ID. It will only take a minute and will help us a great deal. You can do this by going to their website www.albertsonscp.com

You must re-link you card by **February 28th, 2009** in order to keep earning funds for Yellowstone County 4-H. If you forgot your Preferred Savings Card Number, please call: 1-877-932-7948.

Yellowstone County 4-H's Organization ID # is:
49000128640

Many of you have enrolled in the Albertsons Community partners Program which links your Albertsons Preferred Savings Card to the Yellowstone County 4-H program. When you use your Albertsons Preferred Savings Card, Albertsons will give up to 4% of the total card purchases to support our 4-H programs! It costs you nothing to link your Preferred Savings Card and help support 4-H.

If you want to get an Albertsons Preferred Savings Card you may go to the Albertsons site or local Albertsons store to obtain a card. Thank you for your support!

MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS SCHOLARSHIP

Application deadline for the Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) Scholarship is February 15th, 2009. This \$2,500 scholarship is open to all Montana high school seniors. Eligibility requirements include the scholarship recipient be planning to enroll in a course of study that allows students to explore natural resources.

For more information visit their website www.macdnet.org or call 406-443-5711.

NILE SCHOLARSHIP

The NILE Collegiate Scholarship is available to seniors graduating in 2009. NILE awards nine (9) general scholarships in the amount of \$500 each.

Scholarship guidelines can be found on the NILE's website at www.thenile.org and clicking on NILE Scholarship. Questions? Call the local NILE office at 256-2495.

DESIGN THE STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW BOOK COVER

State of Montana 4-H members have the opportunity to create an entry for the cover of the State 4-H Horse Show book. Entries must include artwork and theme (not artwork alone). Entry must be sent to the Fergus County Extension Office by May 8th, 2009. There is no limit on the number of entries per person. Entry forms are available at the Yellowstone County Extension Office or on our county 4-H website.

REALITY CHECK ~ HEALTH ROCKS

Don't forget to register for the "Reality Check" workshop scheduled for April 17th & 18th, 2009 in Billings. It's an opportunity to have fun, make new friends and learn some valuable life skills.

4-H members age 14 and older by October 1, 2008 are eligible to attend. Registration is on a first come, first served basis with early bird deadline on March 27th. A registration form was included in you January 4-H newsletter or one can be printed off the county 4-H website.

2009 SEWING FESTIVAL

Registration deadline for the Sewing Festival is Feb. 6th. 50 participants will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. There are eleven different workshops to choose from and participants will take home the items made in each class.

When: Saturday, February 21st
9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Where: First Congregational Church
310 N 27th Street, Billings

The registration form was included in the January 4-H newsletter and can be printed off the county 4-H website.

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY 4-H PINS FOR SALE

Pins were ordered for the county 4-H program. The 4-H'ers going on trips will be using them for trading pins.



You can purchase these nice colored metal pins for 80¢ each at the Extension Office.

2009 STATE LEADER FORUM

The 2009 State 4-H Leader Forum will be held in Sidney, Montana on September 25th & 26th, 2009. The workshop proposal form is available to leaders, teens, Ambassadors, and other in the community who might be interested in teaching a workshop at the forum. The proposal forms are due back to the Sheridan County Extension Office by March 15th. Please contact the Yellowstone County Extension office or visit the county 4-H website to obtain a workshop proposal form.

MONTANA 4-H REC LAB

When: March 20th & 22nd, 2009
Where: Forsyth, Montana
Participants: for 4-H youth age 13 or older as of
October 1, 2008

Registration Fee: \$50

Twenty different workshops are being offered over the course of five sessions ranging from paint ball and art to video production and a treasure hunt! Rec Lab provides youth an opportunity to meet other youth from across the state, develop leadership skills, and learn fun recreational activities that can be used in club settings, county events and at other moments! A Leaders College track is also being offered.

Event details and registration forms will be available soon online at www.montana4h.org Select Events and then select Montana 4-H Rec Lab.

STATE AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE

May 1st, 2009 is the due date for State Awards and Scholarship applications. Members who are 14 and older as of October 1, 2008 are eligible. If a member is selected as a state winner, they are eligible to attend National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia Nov. 27th ~ Dec. 1st, 2009.

There can be more than one winner in a project, or activity area. A member can apply in any project or area, an application must be completed for each project or area in which they want to be considered. State award selection committees look for excellence in 4-H work, leadership, citizenship, and community service. All state and scholarship winners are announced at State 4-H Congress in July.

To apply for state awards, members must use the Montana State 4-H Awards application. You can get an application from the Extension Office. We have past state winners applications on file at the office. If you would like to look at one, please call.

PROJECT ENROLLMENT DROPS & ADDS

Many of you 4-Her's have chosen projects for the 2008 - 2009 4-H year and have hopefully begun work on them. A computer printout of your club will be sent to your organizational leader to make any corrections or additions.

Be sure to check your projects to see that everything is listed. **Some of the most frequent errors are made in signing up for Dog, Swine, Beef and Sheep.** Be sure you have listed one of three levels and you also must sign up on your enrollment sheet for either dog obedience or dog & puppy care, or both. Beef, Sheep and Swine projects, you must enroll in one of three levels, **as well as in either market or breeding, or both.**

After the corrections and/or additions have been added to the printout, the **ORGANIZATIONAL LEADER WILL SIGN, DATE AND RETURN IT TO THE EXTENSION OFFICE BY APRIL 30.** 4-Her's have until **April 30** to add or drop projects. 4-Her's must be enrolled in a project by **April 30** in order to exhibit at the 2009 MontanaFair.

LEARN MORE ABOUT FAIR

Do you want to know how to market your 4-H animal or speak to a potential buyer? Wonder what goes on in Department N during fair week? Come find the answers to these and other questions about fair.

When: Monday, March 16th, 2009
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Where: Laurel Baptist Church
2920 Outfitter Trail

Hosted by the Ruff Riders 4-H Club. Guest speakers will help present the information. Refreshments will be served. Questions? Call Jennifer Laszloffy @ 855-7756.

CHICKS IN SCIENCE 2009

It's that time of year again... 4th - 8th grade girls, mark your calendars for Saturday, February 14th, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to attend the Chicks In Science event at the Alterowitz Gym on the MSU-Billings campus.

Cool chicks can learn all about science, technology, engineering and math career options while checking out 50 booths that offer hands-on, minds-on activities. The Chicks In Science program wants young women to feel empowered in their femininity as well as their intellect. The event was so popular last year, this year they doubled the number of booths and expect over 1,000 area girls to attend. No registration required!

4-H SUPPORTERS

Many businesses and organizations in our community support 4-H. Each month I have been listing several of those supporters in the newsletter. I would encourage you to tell them thank you and support them in return. If you would like to submit names for this article, please send them to Roni.

Air Controls
EBMS
Hoiness LaBar Insurance
Riverside Sand & Gravel
Hanson Chemical
Windmill Club

Lithia Dodge
Lockwood IGA
Tractor Supply Co.
MCS Office Products
TerraLogics Inc.
Mintana Mills Inc.

DEPARTMENT N NEWS ...

(Non Livestock Projects)

There will be a Department N meeting 6:30 p.m. on February 5th, 2009, Courthouse Room 105. We will be planning this year's 4-H Showcase. Everyone is welcome to attend.

CAKE PROJECT

Cake kids will meet Tuesday, Feb. 17th at 6:30 p.m. in Courthouse Room 105. We will be doing a St. Patrick's Day theme - rainbows, leprechauns, shamrocks, etc. Bring a cake, icing, board, box and whatever you wish to decorate with. First year kids will be practicing shell borders. Boards and boxes can be purchased at bakeries like Albertsons or cake supply stores like Jaynes.

RSVP by Friday, February 13th to the Extension Office at 256-2828 or Carol Corder at 839-7420 (leave a message).

Fifth year kids will meet right after the other cake meeting. Bring a bowl of royal icing and a container to hold your flowers. See you then. ~ Carol Corder

LEATHER PROJECT

The Big Sky Association of Leather Artists meets the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Courthouse Room 105. The next meeting is Thurs., Feb. 26th which is a basic leathercraft class specifically for 4-H members and leaders. Leather and other materials will be provided.

The Rocky Mountain Leather Trade Show will be held May 15-17, in Sheridan, WY. Education and innovative products, hundreds of saddle makers and leather crafters from across the U.S. For details contact the Leather Crafters & Saddlers Journal at 888-289-6409 or www.leathercraftersjournal.com

STATE SHOOT

The State 4-H Shooting Sports Tournament will be held on March 6-8, 2009 in Bozeman. They are making a few adjustments to the venue this year in order to accommodate the number of shooters attending. The registration form

and additional information should be available soon on the Montana 4-H website at www.montana4h.org

LIVESTOCK NEWS ...

HORSE & COLT MEETING

The next Horse and Colt Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 18th at 6:00 p.m. in Courthouse Room 105. A few agenda items will be discussed and the program will be on horse helmet safety. Everyone is welcome to attend.

CAT PROJECT

There will not be a Cat Project meeting in February. In March we plan on doing a community service activity. Watch for details in the March 4-H newsletter. Any questions, call Ann Mathiason at 671-3333 or Pennie Jones at 254-9411.

CATFEST SPONSORS

Many thanks to the following donors, sponsors & friends: Lockwood Veterinary Service, Exotic Pets, R & R Trading, Taft Enterprises, The Gabel Family, Jans IGA Laurel, Beartooth Veterinary, the Kvamme Family, the Martin family, the Axtman family, the Frickel family, the Jones family, Sue Miller, Cenex Town and Country, Animalodge, Last Chance Cat Sanctuary, Roni Baker, MetraPark, 4-H Office, Anna Mathiason, Penny Jones, Deb Frickle.

ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING SCHEDULE

Anyone planning on exhibiting animals at the MontanaFair must have attended a Animal Quality Assurance Workshop taught through the Montana State University Extension Service within the last two years. Certification is good for two years. Members who took the class in 2007 need to take the class in 2009. If a member took the class in 2008 they do not need to take the class until 2010. If you have a child who was certified in 2007 and another one who was certified in 2008, it is recommended that you bring both children this year so they get on the same schedule. This will make it easier for your family in the future.

A parent or guardian **MUST** attend the training with the 4-H member. Adults will be asked to be involved in the group discussions and sign the Commitment to Excellence form with their child.

There will be hands on, group activities again. Please plan on arriving on time and staying for the complete 1½ hours. If you are not in attendance for the complete training you may be asked to attend another session. Plan on attending a session early in the year so conflicts do not occur in your family schedule. More classes will **NOT** be added after the June 23rd class.

February 7 - Saturday - 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. -

PAYS - Beef Tagging

March 5 - Thursday - 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Yellowstone County Courthouse, Room 105

April 28 - Tuesday - 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Yellowstone County Courthouse, Room 105

June 6 - Saturday - 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

PAYS - Swine/Sheep Tagging

June 23 - Tuesday - 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Yellowstone County Courthouse, Room 105

BEEF TAGGING

Any 4-H or FFA member wishing to enter Market Beef in the 2009 MontanaFair must have their animal(s) ear tagged on **Saturday, February 7th**. **You may tag three animals. There will only be one site which is PAYS in Billings.**

Beef Tagging:

9:00 a.m. – Noon

Animal Quality Assurance Training:

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Each exhibitor can tag three animals in each species. Animals must be tagged specifically for the MontanaFair. A market animal tagged for the MontanaFair can't be shown or sold at another 4-H or FFA Junior Livestock Show. Open shows do not pertain to this rule. Everyone will need to weigh his or her animal(s) at tagging time. A beginning weight is required for the Carcass Contest through the Ultrasound program. Steers do not need to be halter broke to be weighed.

All exhibitors at the MontanaFair in Department A are required to attend an MSU Extension Quality Assurance Training prior to fair entry deadline to be eligible to

exhibit at the MontanaFair. They must attend the 1 ½ hour training with a parent or guardian. A training session will be held on tagging day for those who can attend. You can also attend any of the other trainings that will be offered. If you attended last year, you do not need to attend this year. You are certified for two years. If you attended a class in 2007, you now need to attend another class.



You need to bring your animals as early as possible. If you have another commitment that day, you need to ask your parents, a friend or neighbor to bring your animals. **It is your responsibility to get your animal(s) to PAYS. No animals will be tagged after this date.** If you have questions, call Brenda Bromenshenk at 656-7173 or the Extension Office at

256-2828. Thank you for your cooperation.

SADDLE UP FOR 4-H / HORSEMANSHIP AWARD CONTEST

The 2009 Saddle up for 4-H program begins May 1st. This "Hours on Horseback" program has riders keep track of the hours they ride their horse. Awards for hours logged are given at Family Fun Night in November.

The 2009 Horsemanship Award Contest is open to any 4-H member in a horse or colt project.

More information on both opportunities will be available in the March 4-H newsletter. (kkn2/22/93)

DOG OBEDIENCE

The dog project will start up on Tuesday, February 24th at 7:00 p.m. in Courthouse room 105. **DO NOT BRING DOGS TO THIS MEETING!** We will be going over basic rules for attending the class, how to select the proper equipment, safety concerns, etc. This meeting is mandatory for first year kids. If a child has been through the 4-H dog obedience classes before but is just bringing a

new dog this year, they do not have to attend this first meeting but do have to pre-register.

We ask that everyone pre-register for the obedience classes to cut down on the chaos on the first night with dogs. 4-H members already signed up for the project will receive a packet of information and forms from the Extension Office. If you are not already signed up, contact the Extension Office and request the information be sent to you. Pre-registration is required for all enrolled, not just first year dogs.

MONTANA HORSE & LIVESTOCK LEADERS FORUM

When: February 27th - March 1st
Where: Billings Hotel and Convention Center

Carbon County Extension hosts this year's Forum and have put together a great list of workshops that are approximately 50% horse related and 50% livestock related. Friday night starts with dinner and demonstrations; Saturday runs from 8:00 a.m. through 5:15 p.m.; Sunday's schedule is 9:00 a.m. to noon. Saturday there will be a clever horse skill-a-thon for all participants which will test not only your knowledge but will also teach you how to conduct a skill-a-thon in your own county.

Registration forms are on the Montana 4-H website (www.montana4h.org) by selecting Programs then select Events. Cost is \$120 if registered by Feb. 20 and \$125 after. Contact the Carbon County Extension Office for details at 962-3522.

CLUB CORNER

The following clubs turned in club minutes this month.

Boots n Britches - We will sell flowers again this year. Plans for shooting sports classes were made.

City Kids - Our club demonstration day is set up. Our club December activities went well.

City Slickers - We had a carry-in dinner.

Explorers - Our club meetings was canceled due to bad weather.

Lockwood Humble B's - Leaders gave reports. The new by laws were passed out.

Lockwood Soaring Phoenix - We discussed AQA classes, Fruit Sale and project meetings.

Ruff Riders - Many project reports were given. Two members gave a demonstration on how to give a demonstration.

Shepherd Pioneers - We will do awards in January. Many project updates were given.

Shepherd Tumbleweeds - Record books were set up. We discussed community service.

Yellowstone Mavericks - We did well at Festival of Trees and will do Big Sky Fit Kids.

FOOD FOR TALK

Do you ever have the feeling your family dinner table conversation leaves much to be desired? Think about it. Does your family sometimes go for days without ever having a meaningful discussion about something other than piano lessons and the athletic schedules? Communication is an art, and a habit that takes time and patience to develop.

Food for Talk includes a couple of questions that can be used for discussion at the family dinner table. Each month look for the new questions. In using the questions the goal is to let everyone at the table have a chance to answer. It best to let the children answer first, otherwise they will often mimic Mom and Dad's answer. Give everyone time to think about his or her response. Be Polite. Have fun with the questions and the conversation that will follow. What greater gift can you give your children than time spent laughing, sharing & caring around the dinner table. Don't be discouraged if your dinner table conversation doesn't blossom overnight. Be patient and persistent – it will happen.

Discussion Questions:

1. "He who gives to me teaches me to give." ~ Danish Proverb. Talk about the most special gift you have ever received.
2. Share what you think is one of your bad habits. What could you do to change it?
3. "Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be." Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865), 16th U.S. President from 1861-1865. On a scale of one to ten (ten being most happy), how happy were you today?
4. When you have to make a decision, are you more likely to go by facts or feelings? Why?

Bernice Mason, Family & Consumer Science Extension Agent, is willing to come to one of your club meetings to talk about the importance of families eating together. Contact her at the Extension Office to schedule a time.



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ATTENTION: THIS IS YOUR 4-H NEWSLETTER

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4-H: The Youth Development Program of MSU Extension

The MSU Extension Service is an ADA/EO/AA/Veteran's Preference Employer and Provider of Educational Outreach.